GEOGRAPHIC NEWS BULLETINS

Published Weekly by

THE NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC SOCIETY

(The National Geographic Society is a scientific and educational Society, wholly altruistic, incorporated under the Federal law as a non-commercial institution for the increase of geographic knowledge and its popular diffusion.)

General Headquarters, Washington, D. C.

Contents for Week of February 29, 1932. Vol. XI. No. 3.

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THEY LOOK LIKE CHAIR SEATS, BUT ARE REALLY BREAD

Persia's staff of life is baked in large ovens, on mounds of red-hot pebbles. The lad in charge of this Teheran shop wears the pahlavi, the new visored cap which all Persian men are now required to have. Over him hangs a symbol of Persia's modernism—an electric light (See Bulletin No. 2).

HOW TEACHERS MAY OBTAIN THE BULLETINS

The Geographic News Bulletins are published weekly throughout the school year (thirty issues) and will be mailed to teachers for one year upon receipt of 25 cents (in stamps or money order). Entered as second-class matter, January 27, 1922, at the Post Office at Washington, D. C., under the Act of March 3, 1879. Acceptance for mailing at special rate of postage provided for in section 1103, Act of October 3, 1917, authorized February 9, 1922.

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Geneva, Scene of World Disarmament Conference

CLASHES in the Far East lend added weight to the discussions of the world's statesmen at the disarmament conference in Geneva.

Geneva, as the "capital" of the League of Nations, is accustomed to international gatherings. In addition, its delightful climate and the beautiful scenery of its environs attract thousands of visitors and even permanent residents from many lands.

Swiss City Almost Encircled by France

Geneva has so often been mentioned in relation to world affairs that one is likely to lose sight of the fact that it is the principal city of a Canton (corresponding to our States) of the Republic of Switzerland. The Canton of Geneva seems to hang precariously to the rest of Switzerland like a fragrant of food on the bottom of a spoon. Though it has an area of more than a hundred square miles its contact with Swiss territory is across a narrow neck along the north shore of Lake Geneva. The contact with France, on the other hand, is along a border more than fifty miles long.

Geneva, consequently, is more French than otherwise. It draws for food upon the orchards, gardens and chestnut groves of near-by France, as it has since the Middle Ages, when the city was virtually independent. French is the language of the courts and the streets, although, as is the case elsewhere in Switzerland, the residents of Geneva can generally converse with equal facility in German and in English.

Among Swiss cities Geneva, with a population of 135,000, ranks third, after Zurich and Basel.

Many Bridges Span the Rhone

The city itself is divided into two parts by the swift flowing Rhone River, outlet of Lake Geneva. Not the least of the scenic beauties of Geneva are the many picturesque bridges which span the Rhone, and join the tiny island in midstream with the banks.

To outsiders, however, the chief point of interest is the headquarters of the League of Nations, temporarily located in a former hotel, facing the blue waters of Lake Geneva and the snowy crest of Mt. Blanc, Switzerland's highest mountain peak.

On the terrace wall before it is a memorial to Woodrow Wilson, inscribed "Founder of the League of Nations." The League Assembly meets once a year in September, and the Council thrice a year.

The International Red Cross was founded in Geneva in 1864, adopting as its badge the flag of Switzerland transposed. It still has its headquarters in Geneva. Here, also, the steamship "Alabama" claims were settled after our Civil War. In addition to its many international affiliations Geneva is also noted for watches, chronometers and jewelry.

Note: See also "The Millennial City," *National Geographic Magazine*, June, 1919. For additional photographs of Switzerland see "Amid the Snows of Switzerland," March, 1922.

Bulletin No. 1, February 29, 1932.

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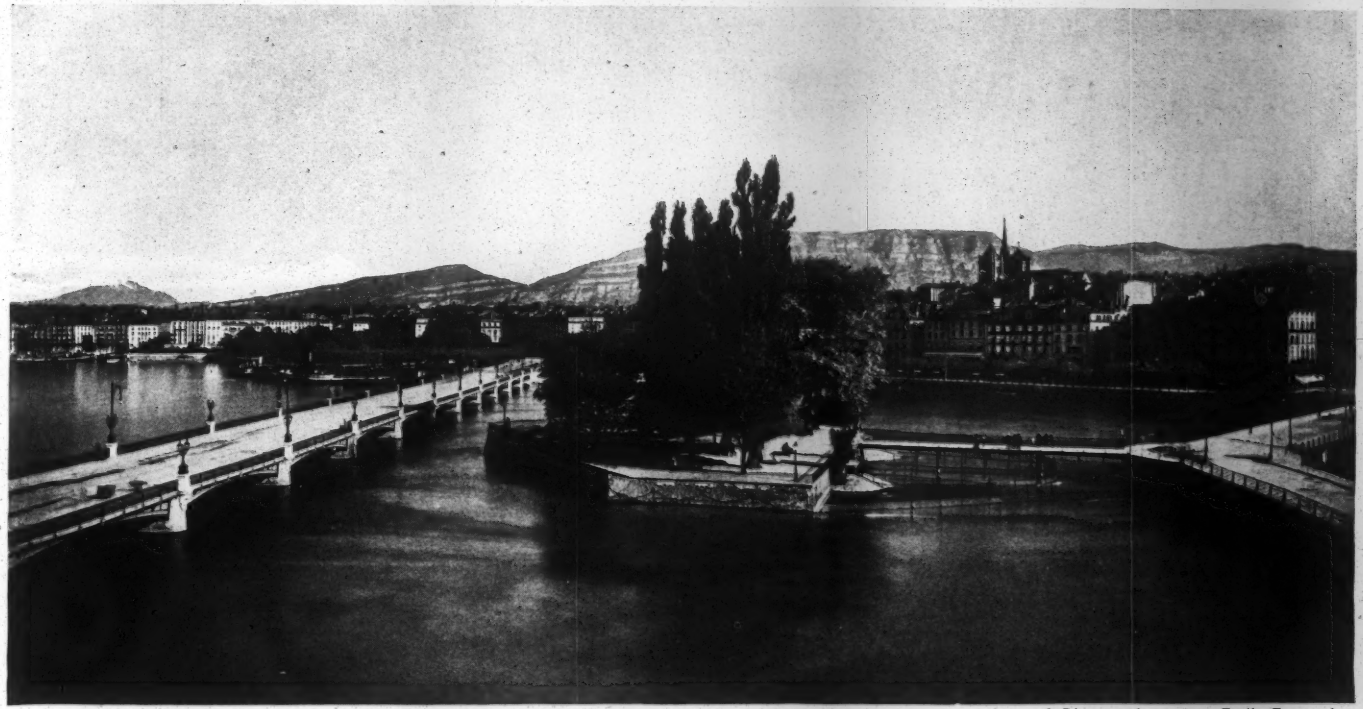

© Photograph courtesy Emile Fontanel

HERE THE ARMIES AND NAVIES OF THE WORLD ARE BEING WEIGHED IN THE BALANCE

The beautiful city of Geneva, with the snow-clad summit of Mt. Blanc looming majestically in the distance. The fronded islet in midstream is dedicated to the memory of Geneva's most famous private citizen, Jean Jacques Rousseau, of whom Napoleon said, "without him, France would not have had her Revolution." A wooded park on the shores of Lake Geneva, which begins just above the lefthand bridge, has been selected as the site of the permanent home of the League of Nations (See Bulletin No. 1).

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Motor Cars Bring Patrons to Teheran's Oriental Bazaars

TEHERAN, the colorful, scent-laden old capital of Persia, is another stronghold of the ancient East yielding to the magic wand of modernism. While the gay city of bazaars and brilliant tile gateways still has no railroad link with the outside world, regular air lines connect it with Soviet Russia, Iraq and India, and a system of improved motor highways reach out to Meshed, Kazvin, Hamadan, Tabriz, Resh, and the Persian Gulf.

Most of Teheran's original old Persian market is in the throes of reconstruction. From the present maze of scaffolds and masonry will emerge the new oriental bazaar, which is expected to eclipse in splendor any in the Near East. Dusty roads are being covered with concrete for the growing volume of motor car shoppers, and eventually there will be scheduled bus services for patrons living in the expanding suburbs.

Wide, Well-lighted Streets

Teheran can be entered by any one of twelve beautiful gates whose gayly colored tiles glisten in the sunlight. The north part of the city is the modern quarter. Shrill automobile horns demand the right of way from lumbering camels and venerable cabs that are drawn by moth-eaten donkeys.

Wide, well graded, electric lighted streets, here and there shaded by huge elms and stately poplars, at whose feet clear water trickles, pass attractive government buildings, foreign legations, homes of foreign residents and palatial mansions of wealthy Persians. Then there are the tramways, the airport and football field, and the business district where movies, hotels, European shops and restaurants, all are writing a new chapter in Teheran's history.

The capital centers around Maiden-e-Toop Khaneh, or Artillery Square, which is ornamented with antiquated cannon and inclosed by the facade of the Imperial Bank of Persia, and arcaded military barracks. Through six huge arched gateways, important avenues lead to all parts of the city. Many foreign residences, legations and two hotels line Khiaban-e-Alaed Dowleh, and on the broad, tree-arched Khiaban-e-Almasieh, sometimes known as the Avenue of Diamonds, leading from the southwest gateway, are the Royal Palace, Treasury, Foreign Office and Imperial Archives Buildings with beautiful gardens between them.

Famous Peacock Throne in Museum

No building attracts so many visitors as the Royal Museum where the famous Peacock Throne reposes. The gorgeous chair is set with thousands of diamonds, rubies, emeralds and other precious stones. Emblazoned on the back is a large peacock from which it takes its name. It was brought from India to Teheran in 1739 when Nadir Sah, Persia's Shah from 1736 to 1747, sacked Delhi. It was used by Persian royalty, but now is a tourist sight. The present ruler of Persia uses a less pretentious throne when not seated at his efficient, American-type office desk.

Only in the southern portion of Teheran one sees an undisturbed bit of Persia. High, dingy, mud walls inclose mud-brick houses, and filthy gutters border narrow, alley-like streets. Some of the busier streets of this quarter are teeming with life. On the side-lines hokey-pokey men sell bright-colored ice cream, and curbstone restaurants, where squatting men serve hot potatoes and mutton, cooked on char-

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A SWISS COWHERD IN HOLIDAY ATTIRE

In each hand he carries a huge bell and an embroidered yoke. These are to be awarded to the prize animals of his herd. It is estimated that Switzerland has more than 300,000 peasant proprietors out of a total urban and rural population of a little over 3,000,000. More than a third of the productive area of the country is under grass and meadows. Cheese, milk chocolate and condensed milk are important Swiss products.

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Salt, the World's Most Essential Mineral

OKLAHOMA'S vast salt desert, 40,000 acres of barren plains near Cherokee, in the north-central part of the State, will soon be transformed into a salt lake—one of the Federal Government's proposed 115 artificial lakes as migratory wild fowl refuges. Only the Great Salt Lake in Utah and the Salton Sea in southern California, among American salt lakes, will exceed this new body of water in size.

Farmers of the Kansas-Oklahoma border region have long collected salt for their cattle from the Cherokee plains, and before the ranchmen Indians came to carry away the mineral to their encampments to season their own food. When the new lake is formed by erecting barriers along near-by streams there will still be more than enough salt available to supply local needs. Residents of the district favor the new lake because it is believed that such a large body of water will temper the climate of northern Oklahoma, which is intensely hot in summer.

Enough for Two Million Years

Salt is so plentiful and cheap in America that we lose sight of the value placed upon it in primitive countries. We think nothing of covering some forty square miles of salt beds when Kansas, Oklahoma, Texas and New Mexico are underlaid with deposits estimated to contain thirty thousand billion tons. Salt from this region could supply our needs for at least two million years at the present rate of consumption. The United States could provide the world with salt almost indefinitely.

Of the 8,000,000 tons of salt produced annually in the United States more than 2,350,000 tons are manufactured salt; nearly 2,000,000 are rock salt; and 3,700,000 tons are brine salt. The 1931 value of America's salt was more than $25,000,000. Michigan, New York, Ohio, Kansas and Louisiana are the leading salt producing States, in the order named.

The New York deposits have been worked for a century, yet a sufficient supply remains to meet our demand for another thousand years. In some places the deposit is more than 300 feet thick.

Salt a Luxury in Central Africa

But among the native tribes of Central Africa salt is a luxury. By gifts of salt, the white man has been able to approach and study the most timid African jungle dwellers. In the Belgian Congo the Pygmies bury elephant tusks until they can trade them for salt and tobacco.

For centuries before the Christian era, blocks of salt were used by districts bordering the ocean to pay taxes to Chinese rulers. To-day in Tibet and parts of China salt is a medium of exchange. The ancient Germans believed the presence of salt in soil gave it a sacred character and would wage war for salty streams.

While some salt is taken from sea water by evaporation, most of our supply is extracted from earth deposits. This is done by forcing water down holes reaching the salt bed and evaporating the brine which is forced up, or by mining the mineral in much the same manner as coal is mined.

The famous salt mines at Wieliczka, Galicia (Poland), have been called one of the lesser wonders of the world. They form an underground city with 65 miles of galleries and 30 miles of railroads. Monuments, houses, churches, restaurants and railroad stations, as well as huge, artistically patterned chandeliers in numerous chapels and ballrooms are all carved out of solid salt.

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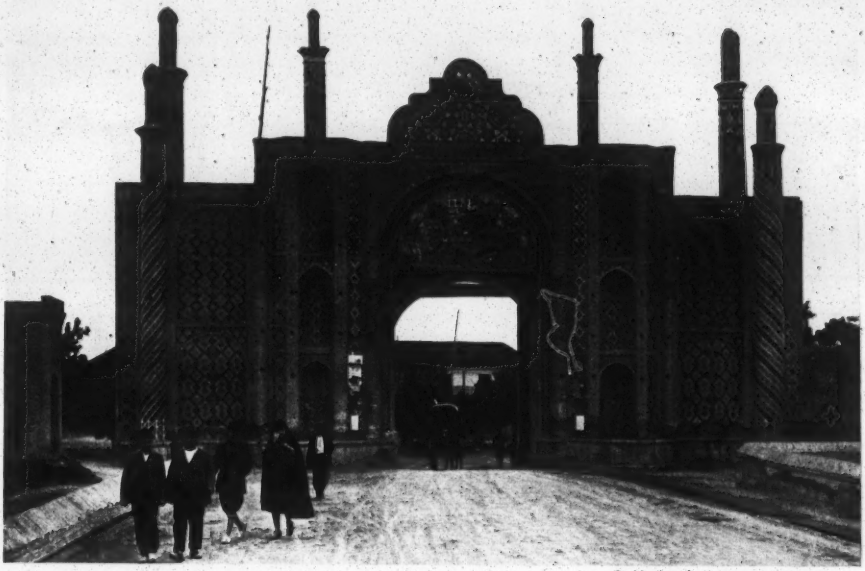
coal braziers, do a thriving business. Near-by a crowd is watching an oriental mystic performing mysterious tricks, or listening to professional story tellers, trying to talk above the noise of street hawkers, dirty urchins at play, and the pleading of ragged beggars.

Here and there the streets are arched over to form bazaars. The big bazaar had, before reconstruction started, more than twenty-five miles of streets lined on both sides with shops which were so small that the purchasers had to stand in the street while bargaining with over-fat shop-keepers. It is still the finest bazaar in Persia.

Under the low mud roofs, leading Persian merchants and craftsmen not only sell their wares, but manufacture many products. One can buy anything from the cheapest ornament to works of art.

Note: For additional material about this changing oriental city see "The Citroën-Haardt Trans-Asiatic Expedition Reaches Kashmir," *National Geographic Magazine*, October, 1931; "From England to India by Automobile," August, 1925; and "Modern Persia and Its Capital," April, 1921.

Bulletin No. 2, February 29, 1932.



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THE NORTH GATE, ONE OF TEHERAN'S TWELVE BEAUTIFUL PORTALS

The gayly-colored tiles of these doorways to the Persian capital glisten in the sunlight. This gate, embellished with a scene from Persian mythology, leads to the most modern section of the city. The photographer caught the face of the woman in the foreground uncovered by her black chuddar, or scarf. Three of the men wear the new *pahlavi*, or visored cap, which serves to break down tribal lines and give a unity of appearance and spirit in modern Persia.

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Bessarabia, Bone of Contention Between Russia and Rumania

BESSARABIA, the Alsace and Lorraine of southeast Europe, continues to be a bone of contention between Soviet Russia and Rumania. Neither nation would sign a pact of non-aggression in Warsaw recently because ownership of this border area, as large as Denmark, remains unsettled.

Only a very close observer can tell the difference between rural Ohio and Illinois, and the farm lands of Bessarabia. Tasseled Indian corn, from seed bought in America, rustles in the breeze while ripples play over seas of yellow ripening wheat. Earth black as Illinois "gumbo" lies beneath one's feet.

Geologically Allied with Russia

When land like this brings from $200 to $400 an acre in the United States, it is clear why both Russia and Rumania, after five years of discussion punctuated by armed threats and heated conferences, still make claims and counter claims to Bessarabia.

Geologically Bessarabia is allied to Russia, including as it does, the tail end of the black earth belt of Russian prairies. But even Russian census figures state that more than half of Bessarabia's population is Rumanian.

In feudal days there arose in what now is Rumania, the house of Bassarab. One of the princes is said to have established Moldavia, which, with Wallachia, founded by another prince of the same house, helped to make up prewar Rumania. Bessarabia takes its name from the family. This point of history is not forgotten in Rumania's "irridenta" program.

Russia reminds the world that Bessarabia had been a Russian principality for more than a hundred years, up to the transfer during the days of the Revolution, and that it is a monument to Russia's power in stemming the Turk tide in the Balkans.

Three Ages of Rumania

Rumania, variously considered, is 1808 years old, 73 years old, or 14 years old. Bessarabia was the outpost of the Roman dominion, Dacia, which, in the time of Trajan comprised all of what now is Greater Rumania. Only Wallachia and Moldavia were included in the familiar Rumanian "boot" which made up the self-governing Rumania carved out of Turkey in Europe, in 1859.

Independent Greater Rumania, 14 years old, was born when the Versailles treaty reallotted Transylvania and Bucovina; Bessarabia was annexed after repeated requests from the principality's peasant council, which first attempted to establish a republic.

Rumania's three ages are the key to the condition of Bessarabia, which has the air of being part of one of the oldest nations of Europe and yet bears the marks of the green pioneer stage of Nebraska in overland mail days. Like the American pioneer, the Bessarabian peasant is sufficient unto himself. He builds his own house from materials at hand, his fields supply wheat and corn, his stock supplies his meat and his flax the fiber which his wife and daughter spin, weave and dye. Only recently have aniline dyes replaced natural herb dyes for the brilliant peasant costumes. Independence is a prime virtue in a country which has only 530 miles of railroad and much less improved highway!

The household obeys the pioneer rule that everybody works. From the child who drives the geese to the pond, to the patriarch who closes the gate after the oxen, each has his duties. Schools command scant attention where there is work for

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The consumption of salt in the United States is at the rate of 16 to 18 pounds per person annually. Every living thing would perish without the mineral. Salt supplies the tissues of the human body with iodine.

Although salt is used principally for cooking and seasoning, it is also used extensively in meat packing, dairying, baking, refrigeration, pottery glazing, in enamel and pipe works, in the silk and textile industries, in salting cattle, curing and tanning hides, making pickles, and in the manufacture of numerous chemicals containing a sodium base.

Note: Michigan, leading American producer of salt, is described and illustrated in "Michigan, Mistress of the Lakes," *National Geographic Magazine*, March 1928. Other references to salt will be found in "Skypaths through Latin America," January, 1931; "Louisiana, Land of Perpetual Romance," April, 1930; and "The Geography of Money," December, 1927.

Bulletin No. 3, February 29, 1932.

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AN ELECTRIC SHOVEL TAKES A BIG "PINCH" OF SALT

This salt mine, near Detroit, penetrates part of a vast deposit which once was an inland sea occupying much of Michigan. For a number of years the Wolverine State has led the United States in salt production, although it was not until after lumbering had ceased to be a bonanza that her people turned seriously to mining their saline wealth.

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Oriente, Cuba's Earthquake Zone, and Santiago

EARTH tremors in the city and vicinity of Santiago recently directed attention to the Cuban province of Oriente, of which Santiago is the capital.

Oriente is at once the largest, the least developed, and, in mineral wealth, the richest of Cuban provinces, which correspond to States in the United States.

Situated at the eastern end of Cuba, the province of Oriente is geographically the most remote section of Cuba from the United States, yet it has more intimate American associations than all the rest of Cuba combined. It was in Santiago's harbor that the American fleet blockaded Admiral Cervera's Spanish squadron during the Spanish-American War, and it was along the rocky Oriente coast outside of Santiago's harbor that the battered Spanish ships were run aground after they tried to make a running escape.

One of Many "Santiagos"

Back of Santiago de Cuba—so called in Latin America to distinguish it from "Santiagos" in Chile, the Dominican Republic, Argentine, etc.—many Americans fell in the assault on the city, the principal land engagement of the Spanish-American War. There, too, were El Caney Fortress and San Juan Hill, scene of the famous Rough Riders' attack. Under a towering ceiba tree near Santiago a treaty of peace, virtually ending the war, was signed July 16, 1898.

The United States to-day leases a part of the province of Oriente for a naval station. Guantanamo Bay, east of Santiago, guards one of the principal trade routes to the Panama Canal, and each winter it becomes a rendezvous of the United States scouting fleet.

The province of Oriente, roughly triangular in shape, has an area of 14,211 square miles, a little larger than that of Maryland. Oriente has more mountains than all the rest of Cuba combined, and from some 1,600 small and large mines it extracts quantities of iron, copper, manganese, zinc, coal, antimony, asbestos, lead, silver and gold. The largest mines are those near Daiquirí, first landing place of U. S. Marines during the attack on Santiago, and in the Nipe Bay district, along the north coast. At El Cobre, overlooking Santiago Harbor, copper is obtained.

Many Untouched Resources

In the valleys and along the coastal plains of the north, Oriente also produces sugar, coffee, cacao, tobacco, fine woods, wax, and many different kinds of tropical fruits. The agricultural and mineral resources of the province are enormous, but, for lack of communication, have hardly been scratched. The new Central Highway—and feeder roads to be built—is expected to open regions of great natural wealth. The Central Highway, one of the world's finest roads, runs from Havana to Santiago, a distance of 705 miles.

Sighted by Columbus in 1492, Oriente can trace its history back to the time of the white man's entry into the New World. Columbus named the eastern tip of Oriente "Alpha and Omega," but his less imaginative sailors dubbed it "Maysi," Galician for "land there!" The sailors won, evidently, for the present name of the Cape is Maisi.

Santiago, the principal city and capital of the province, is a modern metropolis of 141,124 population, second in size and importance only to Havana among Cuban cities. Many ships bound for the Panama Canal, via Jamaica, put into its splendid, landlocked harbor. Before it was captured by the combined American and Cuban-

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every hand and therefore only 40 per cent of Bessarabian men and only 5 per cent of the women are literate. The pioneer influence in Rumania as a whole is shown in Bucharest where nearly every house has land around it, unlike the wall-to-wall style of many European capitals.

The American tourist in Bessarabia at Easter time would be surprised to find the peasants coloring Easter eggs. He would be impressed by the superior color and decoration the Moldavians obtain, for they use no paper patterns, depending alone on their own ingenuity for designs. So remarkably original is much of their work that designs and colors have been used for motifs by great textile concerns.

Note: Russia and Rumania, the two nations involved in the Bessarabia dispute, are described in the following articles in the *National Geographic Magazine*: "Some Impressions of 150,000 Miles of Travel," May, 1930; "The Danube, Highway of Races," December, 1929; "Russia of the Hour," November, 1926; "Transylvania and Its Seven Castles," March, 1926; and "The Whirlpool of the Balkans," February, 1921.

Bulletin No. 4, February 29, 1932.

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UKRAINIAN YOUNGSTERS ALSO "SWING HIGH, SWING LOW!"

The Ukrainian Soviet Republic, nearest Russian neighbor to Bessarabia, has many features in common with the disputed border territory between Rumania and Russia. Like other boys and girls throughout the world Ukrainian children enjoy games in the outdoors. Although the air seems to be cold enough to require overcoats two of the youngsters are barefoot, but smiling.

insurgent forces in 1898 Santiago was a fever-ridden place, shunned by every ship that could avoid calling there. It has become one of the most charming and colorful of Cuban towns, and is usually a port-of-call of cruise ships as well as merchant vessels. It exports large quantities of sugar, hides, copper, iron, wax, dyewoods, and mahogany.

Near Santiago rises the blue-tipped Turquino Peak, 6,560 feet, the highest mountain in Cuba. It is part of the Sierra Maestra, one of the most magnificent cordilleras in the Americas. Part of this range encircles Santiago like a wall, forcing the railroads and highways to make the ascent to the interior by long, picturesque zigzags.

Manzanillo, on the west coast, is the second city of the province, although it is much younger than Santiago and the settlements of the north coast. Founded in 1791, in an effort to stop the extensive smuggling of Jamaica cattle by English privateersmen, Manzanillo has since become an important shipping center, its exports including precious woods, cattle, hides, honey, sugar, and locally celebrated preserves.

Note: See also: "Skypaths Through Latin America," *National Geographic Magazine*, January, 1931; "To Bogotá and Back by Air," May, 1928; "Across the Equator with the American Navy," June, 1921; and "Cuba, the Sugar Mill of the Antilles," July, 1920.

Bulletin No. 5, February 29, 1932.

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ALL DAY LONG THE BATTLE RAGED ROUND EL CANEY

Some of the fiercest fighting in the Spanish-American War took place here and at neighboring San Juan Hill, near Santiago, Cuba. At this old stone fort gallant Americans and no less gallant Spanish foes made July 1, 1898, a day memorable for courage and tenacity on both sides. El Caney fort is now in a ruinous state, with one of its old guns still pointing futilely toward San Juan Ridge. The chief sections of both this and the San Juan battlefield are now preserved as a public park. The last remnants of the Cuban Indians live in El Caney.